

Minutes of the
Carlisle Board of Health
May 16, 2019, 7:00 PM
Carlisle Town Hall – Nickels Room

Recognition - Todd Brady
Introduction of New Board Members
Election of Officers
Minutes
Bills
Administrative Reports

NEW BUSINESS

Benfield Farms – status report
Perc-Rite Leaching System

ONGOING BUSINESS

Old Home Day Booth
MDPH Internship – Residential Pesticide Use

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Gleason Library Well update
Meeting Dates

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm at town hall. Present: Todd Thorsen (chairman), Lee Storrs, Donna Margolies, Tony Mariano, Cathy Galligan. Also present: Linda Fantasia (Health Agent), Todd Brady, Rob Frado

BOARD MEMBERSHIP - The Board thanked departing member Todd Brady for his time on the Board. Brady did not run for re-election due to work commitments. Brady has agreed to continue to working with the MDPH Intern on the potential health effects of residential pesticide use. Brady suggested meeting with Fanta Cherif, the intern, at the next Board meeting. The Chairman then welcomed two new members, Tony Mariano and Cathy Galligan. Galligan is a returning member and Mariano is on the Water Quality Subcommittee. Each gave a brief history of their backgrounds and interest in being on the Board.

Fantasia noted that the Selectmen have adopted a policy requiring Boards and Committees to re-organize following the Annual Town Election. The Board proceeded to discuss the election of officers and the following slate was proposed: Chairman – Todd Thorsen, Vice-Chairman – Donna Margolies, Treasurer – Cathy Galligan. **It was moved (Storrs) and seconded (Margolies) to accept the slate of officers as presented. Motion passed 5-0-0.**

MINUTES – **It was moved (Margolies) and seconded (Storrs) to approve the Minutes of 3/28/19. Motion passed 5-0-0.**

BILLS – Food establishment inspections, payroll, public health nursing (grant), Hazardous Waste Collection for 2019 (Board of Selectmen). **It was moved (Margolies), seconded (Galligan) to approve the bills as presented. Motion passed 5-0-0.**

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

4AB General Coalition Meeting – 5/15/19. Budget Period 1 (BP1) (2019-2020) was approved. There will be a set aside for phone and data costs per community. Plans are being developed to hold a tabletop exercise will be held for town officials and public health on critical staff dispensing and integration of municipal employees during an emergency. This was also the focus of a recent workshop.

Region 4AB PHEP Award – Carlisle received \$4411.99 to cover the cost of a feasibility study to include an Emergency Dispensing Site and Shelter functions in the proposed Community Center and for the replacement laptop. Purchases must be done by 6/30/19.

Measles Outbreak – Dept of Public Health (DPH) Advisory is in meeting books.

Upcoming Workshops - Region 4AB Emergency Dispensing Site Workshop (6/6/19 9-4 in Natick). Fantasia and Gines will attend. The Incident Command in Action (5/31/19) is Closed.

NEW BUSINESS

BENFIELD FARMS – Mark Beaudry (Meridian Engineering) appeared before the Board along with a number of residents of Benfield Farms.

Beaudry explained that he was the design engineer for the septic system at Benfield Farms which is experiencing breakout of effluent in the leaching area. He had organized a site visit on May 10 with Dan Ottenheimer (Oakson, Inc.), Allen Pelkey (Peabody Properties), Rob Frado (Technical Consulting Group), Tony Mariano (BOH) and Sylvia Willard (Conservation Commission). The purpose of the site visit was to evaluate the conditions in the field and the possible cause. Beaudry had staked the corners of the field and placed yellow caution tape and a “Keep Off per Order of the Board of Health” sign. The group learned that the bird houses which originally were to be placed at the corners, were actually located at random spots throughout the field.

Beaudry said the drip dispersal tubing was 2.0 below grade with approximately 24” of sand above according to the Final Grade As-Built. They dug two holes by hand within the field. One encountered the Perc-Rite tubing and effluent was observed. The effluent did not sink into the ground suggesting that the soil below was compacted. The system was not under pressure at the time. The second hole was most between the tubing runs and remained dry. Beaudry said they discussed a number of theories including compaction of soils either during installation or from mowing, too much cover over the system resulting in an anaerobic condition or possible nicks in the dispersal tubing. The field gets mowed approximately twice a year in the summer and early fall. The farmer who leases the parcel is aware of the septic system location. The leaching field is located in a Conservation Restricted area and mowing of the field is allowed under agricultural use. Beaudry suggests exposing more of the Perc-Rite leaching area but this will require heavy equipment. The pathway to the site is currently impassable due to wet conditions so the work will need to wait until later in June or July. Frado noted that the system had previously been pressure tested and no leaks were identified. The Board asked about the condition of the biomat. This is a layer of bacteria in the soil beneath a septic system that helps to reduce pathogens dispersed by a system. Biomat buildup however can seal the soil beneath a system causing it to fail. Beaudry said they did not observe this where they dug so they biomat may be working.

The group was able to locate monitoring wells #1 (upgradient) and #2 (downgradient) which will be tested. Well #3 is over 400’ from the leaching field and closest to the Public Water Supply. It would only require testing if well #2 has an exceedance of nitrates. The group also checked the FAST Pre-Treatment Unit. Ottenheimer thought the treated effluent looked flocculated which could indicate a malfunction. The group also examined the Bio-vent which was intended to reduce backpressure from the FAST Unit and eliminate extraneous odors. Beaudry said the system appeared to be operating correctly. He noted that the venting system was run under a drainage pipe. If there was a leak it could cause an air block to the tanks. The manhole covers over the tanks also need attention since they are not properly sealed. This has been an ongoing problem that was never corrected. Beaudry will follow up on fixing the BioVent. It requires annual maintenance which may not have been happening. As the local approving authority under 310 CMR 15.00 (Title 5), the Board then discussed taking enforcement actions to document the violations, determine what actions are necessary to resolve the situation, identify who will be responsible for the work and set a timetable for compliance.

According to Title 5 breakout of effluent to the surface is a failed system which should not be in use unless otherwise directed by the local approving authority. The Board could impose water conservation measures (no laundry, dishwashing on site) or use of a temporary tight tank. As a final resort, the Board could require replacement of the alternative technologies with a conventional Title 5 system. The Board agreed that the violations were well documented with field reports from the System Operator (ClearWater Industries), design engineer (Meridian Engineering) and Town Engineer (Rob Frado). The reports included not only breakout in the leaching field, but continued problems with the operation of the FAST Unit as evidenced in the monitoring reports and ongoing complaints about odors around the FAST components from the residents. Board members agreed that the situation did not warrant shutting down the entire system which would impose a significant hardship on the 26

senior rental units. Neighborhood of Affordable Housing (NOAH) had been responsive. Due to problem of getting heavy equipment out to the field, a short delay is acceptable. The Board will notify DEP about the failure.

The Board agreed that NOAH or its designee must address the following prior to the next meeting:

- Check with Small Water Systems Services (SWSS) for recommendations on evaluating the water quality complaints
- Design a new Bio-Vent and decommission the old one
- increase testing (monthly) of the FAST System
- Sample both Compliance Wells #1 and #2
- Sample wet areas in the leach field
- Check the FAST operation with Waste Treatment Services
- Fix the manhole covers in the parking area
- Investigate the noise coming from the FAST-hydraulic unit behind the shed.
- Advise residents of what can and cannot be disposed of into the septic system

The Board felt it was important to keep Benfield residents informed of the situation without causing alarm. The Board agreed that it would consult with DEP and town counsel for advice on how the Board should be handling the enforcement action. Beaudry will work with NOAH to prepare a Scope of Work for the next meeting.

129 FISKE STREET -septic system upgrade. Present for the meeting were Mr. and Mrs. Chittijaulau, owners and Carlton Greenwood, installer.

The system had an identified failure in 2016 and was issued a repair permit which expired on 6/18/18. In the fall of 2018 the design engineer, David Schofield, contacted the Board about an extension noting that the owners would like to relocate the system to save some trees. A redesign was never submitted. Title 5 requires that a failed system be upgraded within two years of the date of identified failure. The Board had asked the owners to explain the delay. Mr. Chittilaujau said they want to save some large trees but at this point would like to proceed with replacing the system. They have not been able to reach the design engineer to follow up. The Board suggested hiring a new engineer. The Board is willing to allow a limited amount of time to replace the failed system without penalty. The system will need to be in before the winter shut down (11/30/19). The owners can submit a redesign but will still need to meet the deadline. The Board asked how the owners knew that the system had failed. A Title 5 Inspection was never done. If the system is not in failure, a voluntary upgrade would be allowed three years for replacement. The Board instructed the owners to have an official Title 5 Inspection to determine if the system was actually in failure. This might change the timetable for an upgrade. If the old design is to be used, it will need a letter of certification from a professional engineer.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Old Home Day – the Board will sponsor a pesticide survey to gauge resident knowledge about pesticide use and whether there is interest in a local regulation. There will be a raffle for those who complete the survey which will be prepared by the Board's summer intern. Thorsen volunteered to be in the Dunking Booth.

Woodward Village – the Board received a Scope of Work from GeoHydrocycle to do the groundwater mounding study. The Board agreed to let the applicant know by the beginning of next week.

Meeting Dates: 6/13/19; 6/27/19; 7/25/19

There was no further business. Meeting voted to adjourn at 9:00 pm

Respectfully submitted,



Linda M Fantasia, Recorder

(All documents discussed are available for review in the office of the Board of Health)